

S. N. 09/982,656
Amdt. dated Sept. 30, 2005
Reply to Office action of Jun. 30, 2005

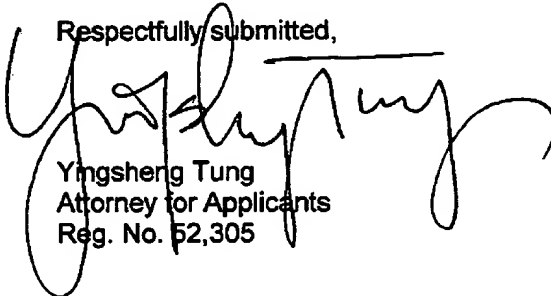
Remarks

Applicants thank Examiner Noland for his patient and careful examination of this application and his clear explanation of the rejections; and for conditionally allowing claims 4, 10, and 18. In response, applicants amend this application as follows:

- I. Applicants amend claims 1, 7, and 14, to incorporate all of the limitations in the allowable claims 4, 10, and 18 respectively, thus overcoming the obviousness rejections.
- II. Applicants cancel claims 4, 10, and 18 in addition to claims 11-13, previously canceled.
- III. Applicants amend claim 9 so it properly depends from claim 7.

Applicants respectfully submit that, as amended, claims 1, 7, 14 stand patentable; claims 2, 3, 5, 6 properly depend from claim 1 and therefore stand patentable; claims 8 and 9 properly depend from claim 7 and therefore stand patentable; claims 15-17 properly depend from claim 14 and therefore stand patentable. Applicants respectfully request that the application be further examined and the claims pass to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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